



**MICHIGAN**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
P.O. Box 30014  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

**MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2017    10:30 a.m.    Room 327 House Office Building, Lansing**

Representative Barrett, Chair, called the meeting to order.

The Clerk read in the letter announcing the members appointed to the Agriculture Committee from a letter to Clerk Randall from Speaker Leonard.

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Barrett, Alexander, Lauwers, Howell, Albert, Calley, Frederick, Elder, Kivela, Phelps, Sabo, Sneller.**

Representative Lauwers made a motion to accept 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Room 327 House Office Building, as the designated time, day and location for regularly scheduled meetings of the Committee for the 2017-2018 legislative session.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**Yeas: Representatives Barrett, Alexander, Lauwers, Howell, Albert, Calley, Frederick, Elder, Kivela, Phelps, Sabo, Sneller. (12/12)**

**Nays: None. (0/12)**

**Pass: None. (0/12) (12/0/0)**

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Committee members provided background and introductions.

The Chair laid HB 4186 before the committee:

HB 4186 (Alexander)      Animals; animal shelters; certain definition of animal; revise.

Representative Alexander and Dr. James Averill, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, testified in support of the bill. Questions and discussion followed.

Andrew Vermeesch, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, submitted a card with a neutral position on the bill, but did not wish to speak.

The Chair laid the presentation from the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development before the committee.

Jamie Clover-Adams, the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, gave a presentation on the department. Questions and discussion followed.

The Chair laid the presentation from the State Veterinarian on animal diseases before the committee.

Dr. Steve Averill, the State Veterinarian, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, gave a presentation on animal diseases. Focusing on Bovine TB, Chronic Wasting Disease and Avian Flu, and how it is affecting the state.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Barrett declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 11:35 a.m.

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Representative Tom Barrett, Chair

Angie Lake, Acting-Committee Clerk (517) 373-5795